



MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

---

PUBLIC HEALTH  
REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1946.

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GWYN ROCYN JONES,

*M.A., M.D., B.Chir., D.P.H.,*

County Medical Officer.

COUNTY HALL,  
NEWPORT, MON.

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# CONTENTS.

Adulteration of Foodstuffs, etc. ...	24	Laboratory Facilities ...	5, 44
Agriculture Act, 1937 ...	7	Llanfrechfa Grange Maternity Hospital ...	11
Alterations to Boundaries ...	1	Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital ...	11
Ambulance Facilities ...	7, 9		
Area, Population, etc. ...	1	Maternal Mortality ...	3, 10
Asthma Clinic ...	8	Maternity and Child Welfare ...	47
		Maternity Homes and Hostels ...	11
Bacteriological Laboratory ...	5, 44	Medical Consultation Clinic ...	8
Births ...	2	Medical Examination of Staff ...	10
Blindness ...	33, 47	Mental Defectives ...	10
Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938 ...	47	Midwives ...	10
		Milk (Special Designations) Regulations ...	7
Cancer ...	32		
Child Life Protection ...	10	Nantyderry Hostel for Unmarried Mothers ...	12
Cleanliness ...	32	National Health Services Act ...	8
Clinics and Treatment Centres 7, 37, 41	41	Neurological Consultation Clinic ...	8
Closet Accommodation ...	18	Notifiable Diseases ...	27
County Infirmary ...	11	Nursing Homes ...	11
County Laboratory ...	5, 44	Nursing in the Home ...	7, 9
		Nursing Mothers ...	9
Deaths ...	3		
Domestic Help ...	9	Orthopaedic Treatment ...	9, 10
Expectant Mothers ...	9		
Factories ...	18	Plaster Out-patient Clinic ...	8
Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ...	25	Prevention of Blindness ...	33
		Public Cleansing ...	18
General Cleanliness ...	32	Public Health Laboratory ...	5, 44
		Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia 3, 27, 30	30
Health Centres ...	8	Regent House ...	11
Health Visiting ...	9, 10, 32	Registration of Nursing and Maternity Homes ...	11
Hospitals ...	8	Rheumatic and Asthma Clinic ...	8
Hostel for Unmarried Mothers ...	12	Rural Housing ...	24
Housing ...	21	Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944 ...	17
Immunization ...	9, 29		
Infant Mortality ...	4	Sanitary Circumstances of the Area ...	12
Infectious and Other Diseases, prevalence of, and control over ...	26	Sanitary Inspections of the Area ...	18
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	30	Schools ...	19
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	27, 30	Scope of the Report ...	1
Cancer ...	32	Sewerage ...	17
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	27, 30	Shops ...	18
Chicken Pox ...	31	Social Conditions ...	1
Diphtheria ...	27, 29	Social Welfare ...	9
Dysentery ...	27, 31	Specialist Consultation Clinics ...	8
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	27, 30	Statistics ...	1
Enteric Fever ...	27	Stillbirths ...	3
Erysipelas ...	27	Surgical Consultation Clinic ...	8
Infantile Diarrhoea ...	5, 30	Swimming Baths and Pools ...	18
Influenza ...	31		
Malaria ...	27, 31	Town and County Planning ...	20
Measles ...	27, 31	Treatment Centres ...	7, 37, 41
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	27, 30	Tuberculosis ...	33
Pneumonia ...	27, 31	Tuberculosis Allowances ...	36
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	27, 30		
Scabies ...	32	Vaccination ...	9, 29
Scarlet Fever ...	27, 29	Veneral Diseases ...	41
Small Pox ...	9, 29	Vital Statistics ...	1
Tuberculosis ...	33		
Whooping Cough ...	27, 31	Water Supply ...	12
Inspection and Supervision of Food ...	24	Welsh National Memorial Association ...	36
Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, etc. ...	12	Women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth ...	3
Isolation Hospitals ...	26	Work-places ...	18
		Zymotic Diseases ...	26

# **REVIEW**

OF THE

## **GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS**

OF THE

### **COUNTY OF MONMOUTH,**

**For the Year ended December 31st, 1946.**

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#### **SCOPE OF THE REPORT.**

Under Article 6 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and in accordance with Circular 13/47 (Wales) of the Ministry of Health (Welsh Board of Health), the Annual Report for the year 1946 has been prepared on the lines of those for the years preceding. Generally, it has been restricted to Vital Statistics and brief comments on vital matters.

#### **ALTERATIONS TO BOUNDARIES.**

The boundaries of the Administrative County remained unaltered throughout the year.

#### **STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA**

Area (in acres) 340,110.

Population (1931) Census, 345,755.

do. Estimated 1946, 309,790.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1946, £1,217,332.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £4,581.

#### **SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**

The County of Monmouth is partly industrial and partly agricultural. The Rhymney, Sirhowy, Western and Eastern Valleys are thickly populated Coal Mining districts, in which are also Iron, Steel and Tinplate Works. In addition, there are coal by-products plants in some of these districts. The Eastern and Southern portions of the County are practically agricultural communities.

#### **VITAL STATISTICS.**

The Vital Statistics for England and Wales for the year 1946, compiled by the Registrar-General are as in the subjoined table. The Monmouthshire figures are given for the purpose of comparison :—

	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.				Death Rate per 1,000 living.		Deaths under one year per 1,000 births.	
	Live Births	Still Births	Live Births	Still Births				
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES</b> ...	1946 19.1	1946 0.53	(1945) (16.1)	(1945) (0.46)	1946 11.5	(1945) (11.4)	1946 43.0	(1945) (46.0)
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ... ..	22.2	0.67	(19.1)	(0.58)	12.7	(13.5)	46.0	(54.0)
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at census 1931) ...	21.3	0.59	(19.2)	(0.53)	11.7	(12.3)	37.0	(43.0)
London ... ..	21.5	0.54	(15.7)	(0.40)	12.7	(13.8)	41.0	(53.0)
<b>MONMOUTHSHIRE</b> ...	19.9	0.64	(18.2)	(0.74)	11.7	(12.2)	47.6	(56.6)

In all cases the estimated populations as supplied by the Registrar-General have been used for the purpose of this table.

**BIRTHS.**—The number of births assigned to the Administrative County for 1946 was 6,186 made up as follows:—

	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total		Grand Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Urban Districts ...	2662	2526	135	125	2797	2651	5448
Rural Districts ...	337	353	20	28	357	381	738
Total ... ..	2999	2879	155	153	3154	3032	6186

There were 607 more births in 1946 than in 1945, when there were 5,579 births. In 1944 there were 6,153 births; in 1943 there were 5,761 births, and in 1942 there were 5,823 births.

The birth rate for 1946 (19.9 per 1,000 persons living) is 1.7 higher than that for 1945 (18.2).

The birth rate for England and Wales for the year 1946 was 19.1.



# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1946.

DISTRICT	ESTIMATED POPULATION.	BIRTHS								DEATHS				INFANTILE MORTALITY.				Zymotic Death-rate per 1000 of esti- mated population.	Tubercular Death-rate per 1000 of estimated population (including Phthisis and other Tubercular diseases)	Respiratory diseases Death-rate per 1000 of estimated population.	Medical Officer of Health
		LEGITIMATE		ILLEGITIMATE		TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion	Deaths under 1 year of age.							
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female							Leg.	Illegit- imate.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 births.				
<b>URBAN.</b>																					
Abercarn ... ..	18990	189	165	9	6	198	171	369	19.4	122	102	224	11.7	15	1	16	43.3	.10	.52	1.94	J. Dunlop, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Abercarn
Abergavenny ... ..	8439	66	63	9	9	75	72	147	17.4	50	60	110	13.0	6	—	6	40.8	—	.47	.94	H. L. S. Griffiths, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Abergavenny
Abertillery ... ..	28280	263	267	10	11	273	278	551	19.4	207	153	360	12.7	29	1	30	54.4	.10	.45	2.51	T. Baillie Smith, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., Abertillery
Bedwas and Machen ... ..	8441	74	89	3	5	77	94	171	20.2	44	43	87	10.3	11	1	12	70.1	.23	.47	2.01	C. E. P. Davies, L.M.S.S.A. Machen
Bedwellty ... ..	28230	340	325	16	22	356	347	703	24.9	170	130	300	10.6	32	—	32	45.5	.14	.85	1.52	S. R. MacMillan, M.B., B.CH., New Tredegar
Blaenavon ... ..	9797	88	75	4	2	92	77	169	17.2	68	54	122	12.4	11	—	11	65.0	.10	.71	2.65	J. J. Crowe, L.A.H., Blaenavon
Caerleon ... ..	3652	29	20	3	...	32	20	52	14.2	20	17	37	10.1	1	1	2	38.4	—	.82	1.09	W. H. Reynolds, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Caerleon
Chepstow ... ..	4993	43	43	1	4	44	47	91	18.2	28	18	46	9.2	5	—	5	54.9	—	.20	.60	J. J. O'Reilly, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., Chepstow
Cwmbran ... ..	11890	113	131	5	5	118	136	254	21.3	74	69	143	12.0	15	—	15	59.0	.42	.33	1.34	J. Fleming, M.B., CH.B., Cwmbran
Ebbw Vale ... ..	29260	303	266	16	13	319	279	598	20.4	190	134	324	11.0	13	4	22	36.7	.10	.68	1.12	F. M. Fonseca, F.R.C.S., D.P.H., Ebbw Vale
Monmouth ... ..	5082	40	38	7	6	47	44	91	17.9	39	25	64	12.5	6	—	6	65.9	—	.59	.98	W. H. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.A., Monmouth
Mynyddislwyn ... ..	13500	165	140	10	6	175	146	321	23.7	78	50	128	9.4	18	—	18	56.0	.37	.66	1.40	C. G. Mackay, M.B., CH.B., Blackwood
Nantyglo and Blaina ... ..	11540	115	99	7	4	122	103	225	19.5	72	55	127	11.0	7	2	9	40.0	—	.51	1.21	F. M. Wallen-Gunn, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Blaina
Pontypool ... ..	42080	383	374	15	15	399	389	788	18.7	293	254	547	13.0	31	2	33	41.8	.21	.61	1.49	T. J. McAllen, M.B., CH.B., Pontypool
Rhymney ... ..	8773	98	62	2	4	100	66	166	18.9	67	52	119	13.5	13	—	13	78.3	.68	.45	1.48	I. Evans, M.B., B.CH., Rhymney
Risca ... ..	14790	123	141	6	5	129	146	275	18.5	99	73	172	11.6	11	1	12	43.6	.13	.87	2.09	A. W. Paterson, M.A., M.B., CH.B., Risca
Tredegar ... ..	19970	115	112	10	8	225	220	445	22.2	135	100	235	11.7	21	4	25	56.1	.10	.45	1.65	E. T. H. Davies, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Usk ... ..	1593	15	16	1	...	16	16	32	20.0	13	11	24	15.0	1	—	1	31.2	—	1.25	2.51	J. C. H. Bird, M.B., CH.B., Usk [Tredegar
<b>RURAL.</b>																					
Abergavenny ... ..	7592	48	62	8	8	56	70	126	16.5	56	45	101	13.3	—	2	2	15.8	—	.39	1.58	O. G. Griffiths, M.B., CH.B., Abergavenny
Chepstow ... ..	9365	109	81	2	7	111	88	199	21.2	52	49	101	10.7	11	—	11	55.2	—	.32	.74	J. J. O'Reilly, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., Chepstow
Nagor & St. Mellons ... ..	11692	93	110	2	5	95	115	210	17.9	70	60	130	11.1	8	—	8	38.1	—	.51	1.62	Harvey Nichol, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., Newport
Monmouth ... ..	6272	43	50	5	6	48	56	104	16.5	34	33	67	10.6	4	—	4	38.4	.15	.31	.95	W. H. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.A., Monmouth
Pontypool ... ..	5569	44	50	3	2	47	52	99	17.7	40	39	79	14.1	2	—	2	20.2	.17	.35	1.43	J. C. H. Bird, M.B., CH.B., Usk
Grand Totals, 1946 ... ..	309790	2999	2879	155	153	3154	3032	6186	19.9	2021	1626	3647	11.7	276	19	295	47.6	.14	.57	1.58	
Totals for Year 1946 ... ..	305710	2656	2564	177	182	2833	2746	5579	18.2	2060	1677	3737	12.2	285	31	316	56.6	.21	.67	1.59	



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For the Urban Districts of the County the birth rate was 20·2 for 1946, and for the Rural Districts 18·2, compared with 18·5 and 16·4 respectively in 1945 and 20·1 and 18·0 in 1944.

The number of births of illegitimate children was 308, which gives a rate of 49·7 per 1,000 of the total live births, and ·99 per 1,000 population. Last year the number was 359, equal to 64·3 per 1,000 births and 1·17 of population. For the year 1944, the figures were 278, equal to 45·1 per 1,000 births and ·89 per 1,000 population.

**DEATHS.**—The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County, as shown by the Registrar-General's table, was 3,647, as compared with 3,737 in 1945; 3,506 in 1944; 3,547 in 1943; and 3,735 in 1942.

The general death rate calculated upon the estimate of population submitted by the Registrar-General (309,790) works out at 11·7 per 1,000 living. In 1945 the rate was 12·2; in 1944 the rate was 11·29; in 1943 11·49, and in 1942, 11·8. For the Urban Districts the rate for 1946 was 11·7, and for the Rural Districts 11·8.

The County Death rate of 11·7 per 1,000 of population shows a decrease on 1945, when the rate was 12·2, but was still slightly higher than that for England and Wales, 11·5.

**STILLBIRTHS.**—The number of stillbirths recorded during the year was 200, compared with 229 in 1945, 241 in 1944, 219 in 1943, and 240 in 1942. The rate per 1,000 of population for 1946 was ·74; in 1945 it was ·74; in 1944, ·77; in 1943, ·70, and in 1942, ·75. The rate continues to compare unfavourably with that for England and Wales, which for 1946 was ·53.

**WOMEN DYING IN OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF CHILDBIRTH.**—The number of deaths registered during the year from accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition was 14—1 from puerperal sepsis and 13 from other causes associated with childbirth.

This is equal to a rate of 2·26 per 1,000 live births or 2·19 per 1,000 total births (live and still). These figures show a substantial improvement on those of the preceding year. The rates for 1945 were 3·40 and 3·27 respectively, and for 1944, 2·43 and 2·34 respectively.

It is regretted that the Maternal Death rates reported for the year 1942 (1·88 per 1,000 live births and 1·81 per 1,000 total births), which were the

lowest ever recorded for the County, have again not been reached. There was a further reduction in the rate per 1,000 total births for England and Wales (1·43), and the County rate (2·19) once more compares unfavourably with that for the whole of the country.

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—The total number of deaths under one year of age throughout the Administrative County was 295, of which 268 occurred in the Urban Districts and 27 in the Rural Districts.

The rate per 1,000 live births was 47·6. Despite the improvement upon the rate for 1945 (56·6), it is regretted that the excellent results of 1943 (44·9) have again not been attained, and the County rate is again higher than that for England and Wales (43·0). Nevertheless, the 1946 figure is a considerable improvement on the pre-war years. The rate in 1944 was 52·3; in 1943, 44·9, and in 1942, 53·0.

The average infantile mortality rate for the 25 years 1891—1915 was 137·4; the average rate for the 25 years 1916—1940 was 72·1, and the average rate for the 6 years 1941—1946, 54·1.

In the Urban Districts the rate was 49·1 per 1,000 births, and in the Rural Districts 36·5 per 1,000 births.

The number of deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age was 19 or 3·0 per 1,000 of all live births, and 61·6 per 1,000 of illegitimate live births. Last year the number of deaths was 31 or 5·5 per 1,000 of all live births, and 86·0 per 1,000 of illegitimate live births.

The measures adopted by the County Council for the reduction of Infantile Mortality are dealt with in the Report upon Maternity and Child Welfare for the year 1946.

## CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death.	No. of Deaths.			Rate per 1000 Births— Administrative County.
	Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Administrative County.	
Infectious Diseases ...	7	—	7	1.1
Diarrhoeal Diseases ...	28	1	29	4.7
Other Digestive Diseases ...	5	—	5	.8
Wasting Diseases ...	157	22	179	28.9
Respiratory Diseases ...	49	2	51	8.2
Tubercular Diseases ...	1	—	1	.2
Other Causes ...	21	2	23	3.7
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>47.6</b>

The number of deaths in the Administrative County from the following diseases was:—

Measles—all ages ...	—
Whooping Cough—all ages ...	6
Diarrhoea—under 2 years of age ...	31

**LABORATORY FACILITIES.**

The accompanying table gives details of the work carried out in the County Laboratory for the year 1946, and also the figures for 1945.

The Laboratory carries out pathological and bacteriological work for the Administrative County, and continues to undertake work for Authorities outside the Administrative County.

The total number of specimens examined shows a distinct increase compared with the previous year.

Table shewing number and nature of specimens submitted and the results thereof:—

Nature of Specimen.		1945.			1946.		
		No. Pos.	No. Neg.	Total Exm'd.	No. Pos.	No. Neg.	Total Exm'd.
Venereal Diseases.	Wassermann Test for Syphilis ...	934	2286	3220	986	3056	4042
	Kahn Test for Syphilis ...	869	2133	3002	1058	2782	3840
	Complement Fixation Test for Gonorrhoea	168	486	654	175	437	612
	Smears and Urines for Gonococcus ...	792	4256	5048	619	4375	4994
	Serum for Spirochaeta Pallidum ...	50	89	139	61	90	151
Bacteriological Examinations.	Sputum—						
	For Tuberculosis Physicians for T.B.	495	1962	2457	398	1438	1836
	County Cases for T.B. (General Practitioners) ...	32	328	360	41	330	371
	Concentration Method for T.B. ...	—	—	3	—	—	3
	For Cultivation as well as T.B. ...	—	—	29	—	—	51
	Throat, Nasal and Ear Swabs for K.L.B. ...	202	1726	1928	269	3739	4008
	Cerebro-Spinal Fluid ...	—	—	92	—	—	82
	Agglutination Tests for Typhoid Fever, etc., ...	14	68	82	13	54	67
	Hairs for Ringworm and Scabies Exams.	17	41	58	18	10	28
	Urine (complete examination) ...	—	—	407	—	—	329
	Pus ...	—	—	187	—	—	211
	Effusion ...	—	—	75	—	—	51
	Vaccine ...	—	—	33	—	—	51
	Blood Culture ...	—	—	22	—	—	26
	Miscellaneous Bacteriological Exams. ...	—	—	455	—	—	981
Pathological Examinations.	Basal Metabolic Rate ...	—	—	165	—	—	162
	Urine ...	—	—	510	—	—	338
	Blood Count ...	—	—	1048	—	—	1245
	Autopsy ...	—	—	94	—	—	22
	Cerebro-Spinal Fluid ...	—	—	104	—	—	81
	Blood Grouping ...	—	—	15	—	—	19
	Tissue for Microscopical Examination ...	—	—	274	—	—	312
	Blood-Sugar Estimation ...	—	—	640	—	—	780
	Blood-Urea Estimation ...	—	—	181	—	—	217
	Urine-Sugar Estimation ...	—	—	603	—	—	558
	Urine-Urea Estimation ...	—	—	28	—	—	27
	Test Meal ...	—	—	32	—	—	24
	Miscellaneous Pathological Examinations	—	—	609	—	—	364
	Water for Bacteriological Examination	—	—	264	—	—	418
	Water for Bacteriological and Chemical Examination ...	—	—	53	—	—	81
Milk and Water Supplies.	Milk—						
	Retail Roadside Samples ...	—	—	369	—	—	545
	Graded Samples ...	—	—	386	—	—	395
	For Chemical Examination ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Ministry of Agriculture Microscopic Examination ...	—	—	6	—	—	1
	Ministry of Agriculture Biological Examination ...	—	—	151	—	—	190
	Miscellaneous Milk Samples ...	—	—	127	—	—	71
	Animal Inoculations ...	—	—	793	—	—	674
Total ...		—	—	24703	—	—	28258



### **MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1936 to 1943.**

The total number of Accredited Milk Licences (Renewals and new licences) issued to operate during 1946 was 117 to produce only and 7 to produce and bottle. 110 producer licences and 7 licences to produce and bottle were in operation on the 31st December, 1946.

Tuberculin Tested licences issued totalled 110 to produce only and 15 to produce and bottle. 101 producer licences and 15 licences to produce and bottle were in operation on the 31st December, 1946.

### **Agriculture Act, 1937.**

Attestation standard was reached by 107 herds in the County during the year. The figure was 112 in 1945.

The Certificate of Attestation is granted by the Minister of Agriculture.

### **NURSING IN THE HOME.**

The Monmouthshire Nursing Association, of which Lady Mather Jackson is the Honorary Secretary, continues to do good work. The Association is subsidised by the County Council. Midwifery work in the rural areas and agricultural townships is also performed for the County Council by the Association in accordance with the scheme prepared by virtue of the Midwives Act, 1936.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

Under the provisions of Section 27 of the National Health Services Act, 1946, it becomes the duty of the County Council, as the local health authority, to make provision for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available, where necessary, for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness or expectant or nursing mothers from places in their area to places in or outside their area. These provisions are due to come into operation on the 5th July, 1948. In the meanwhile, an Interim Scheme embodying suggested arrangements to enable the County Council to meet their obligations has been submitted to the Welsh Board of Health, and copies have been served upon all interested bodies. Details of the scheme will be included in the report for 1947, when it is anticipated that final schemes will have been approved.

### **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

The County Council has established 42 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in this County and 20 Ante-Natal Clinics.



There are 16 School Clinics (including one School Clinic and one auxiliary School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments at Ebbw Vale and three School Clinics at Abertillery).

The Tuberculosis Visiting Stations are detailed later in this report.

There is one Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, details of which will be found later in this report.

There are 10 Clinics established for the examination and treatment of Orthopaedic cases—at Newport, Pengam, Crumlin, Tredegar, Monmouthshire County Hospital (Panteg), Monmouth, Chepstow, Abertillery (two clinics, one of which is for school children only), and Ebbw Vale (for school children only). The Central Orthopaedic Clinic is at Newport, at which massage, electrical treatment and remedial exercises are given.

#### *Specialist Consultation Clinics.*

The following specialist Consultation Clinics have been established:—

Medical Consultation Clinic, held by Dr. E. Graham Jones, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. 118 cases were examined during 1946.

Neurological Clinic, held by Dr. R. Wyburn-Mason, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. 68 cases were examined during 1946.

Surgical Consultation Clinic, held by Mr. J. T. Rice Edwards, F.R.C.S. 94 cases were examined during 1946.

Rheumatic and Asthma Clinic (for school children only), held by Dr. A. G. Watkins, M.D., M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.

Plaster Out-Patients' Clinic, held at the County Hospital, Panteg (for school children only), by Mr. E. Emlyn Lewis, F.R.C.S.

### **HOSPITALS.**

Full details of the Hospital Services, Public and Voluntary, have been given in previous reports. As from the 1st April, 1948, it is anticipated that the administration of all hospitals in the area will be undertaken by the Minister of Health under powers conferred on him by virtue of the National Health Services Act, 1946.

### **NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946.**

Under Part III of the National Health Services Act, 1946, it becomes the duty of the County Council, as the local health authority, to provide the following:—

Premises, to be called "health centres," to be available for various specified medical services;

Services for the care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children;

Adequate midwifery services;

Health Visitors, for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection;

Nurses, for attendance on persons who require nursing in their own homes;

Services, by way of arrangements with medical practitioners, for vaccination against smallpox, and immunization against diphtheria. (The Acts requiring the compulsory vaccination of infants are repealed.)

Ambulance Services.

In addition, certain permissive powers are conferred upon the County Council to make arrangements for the purpose of prevention of illness, and for the care and after-care of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness; and for the provision of domestic help where it is required.

Some of the powers conferred on the County Council by virtue of this Act are new, while others will necessitate the extension and co-ordination of existing services. Comprehensive plans to meet the obligations imposed upon the Council are being prepared in accordance with a programme laid down by the Minister of Health and are being forwarded to the Welsh Board of Health for approval. The various schemes will be reported upon more fully in the report for 1947, when it is anticipated that final approval to the proposals advanced will have been received.

## SOCIAL WELFARE.

The following new cases were dealt with through the Public Health Department during 1946:—

Dental	...	...	...	...	...	...	144
Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Trusses, Abdominal Belts, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Orthopaedic	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other Miscellaneous Medical	...	...	...	...	...	...	19

Orthopaedic treatment is carried out under the supervision of the Consultants—Mr. A. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., of Harley Street, London, and Mr. D. N. Rocyn Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S. Details of examinations will be found under the heading “Orthopaedic Treatment.”

## **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS OF STAFF, ETC.**

All staff are examined by Assistant Medical Officers prior to permanent appointment. The number examined during 1946 was 55.

## **THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.**

There were 705 mental defectives on the County Register at 31st December, 1946; in addition, there were 212 in Certified Institutions, and 29 under guardianship and on licence. A detailed annual report is published separately.

## **MIDWIVES.**

The number of Midwives upon the County Roll at the 31st December, 1946, was 142.

The County Council administers the Midwives Act, 1936, which provides for a full-time salaried midwifery service. The Monmouthshire Nursing Association operates the scheme in the rural districts and rural townships, for which it is subsidised by the County Council. At the end of 1946, 78 Midwives were employed by the County Council and 15 Nurse-Midwives of the Monmouthshire Nursing Association were subsidised by the County Council.

## **MATERNAL MORTALITY, HEALTH VISITING, CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.**

Any matters under these heads requiring special comment are dealt with in the County Maternity and Child Welfare Annual Report for 1946. Certain statistics are also given following the Section "Vital Statistics" in this Report.

## **ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.**

Details of examinations of school children and children under 5 years of age will be found in the County Education and Maternity and Child Welfare Annual Reports for the year 1946.

The services of the Consultants—Mr. A. Rocyn Jones, F.R.C.S., and Mr. D. N. Rocyn Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.—are also available for adult cases, the following examinations being made during the year:—

			Social Wel- fare Cases.	Other Adult Cases.
Mr. A. Rocyn Jones	...	...	—	37
Mr. D. N. Rocyn Jones	...	...	40	100

## MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Four Nursing Homes were registered on the 31st December, 1946. One registration was cancelled during the year. Exemption from registration was granted in 12 instances. No powers were delegated to district councils under Section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### *Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital.*

The Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital was formally opened on the 22nd January, 1940, for the reception of cases of difficult labour.

There are 25 beds, and 390 maternity cases were admitted during the year 1946. 314 women were admitted through the County Ante-natal Clinics, and there were 76 emergency cases.

The number of cases admitted was only 7 less than in the year 1945.

The difficulty in obtaining nurses and domestic help was continued.

### *Llanfrechfa Grange Maternity Hospital.*

This Home is now administered for County cases, and there are at present 24 beds. The number of births which took place there in 1946 was 523.

There is at present no Resident Medical Officer on the staff; Dr. Glyn Morgan, Consultant Obstetric Surgeon, is on call.

The Hospital was not used to capacity during the year owing to shortage of nursing and domestic staff.

Cefn Ila, near Usk, was used as a Post-natal Hospital for cases from Llanfrechfa Grange until the 26th March, 1946, when the premises were vacated. Snatchwood House, Pontnewynydd, was opened for this purpose on the 19th August, 1946. During the year 39 cases were admitted to Cefn Ila and 174 to Snatchwood House.

### *County Infirmary, Tredegar.*

There were 24 beds maintained for maternity purposes at the end of the year. 137 births took place during 1946.

It has been decided to develop the Maternity Ward to provide 40-80 beds and to make the Infirmary a Training School for Part II of the State Certified Midwives Certificate, as soon as certain structural alterations can be carried out.

### *Regent House, Chepstow.*

Five beds are reserved for maternity purposes. There were 69 confinements during 1946.



*Other Maternity Homes and Hospitals.*

Patients are sent by the Council to other Maternity Hospitals when there are no beds available at the Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital.

*Hostel for Unmarried Mothers.*

The Maternity Hostel at Nantyderry continues to do good work. 19 births took place during the year.

## **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **WATER SUPPLY.**

Full details of existing supplies have been given in previous reports.

The report for 1943 contained a table compiled from information submitted by District Sanitary Inspectors showing the proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of population supplied by Local Authorities or Statutory Water Undertakers.

The accompanying three tables, which concern **pipd water supplies**, are compiled from information submitted by District Sanitary Inspectors.

Table 1 shows the numbers and results of bacteriological and chemical examination of raw and treated **pipd water supplies** in the various urban and rural districts of the County during the year 1946.



TABLE 1.

District.	Bacteriological exams. of raw water			Bacteriological exams. of treated water			Chemical Analyses		
	Number taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	Number taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	Number taken	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
<b>Urban.</b>									
Abercarn ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Abergavenny ...	3	—	3	12	10	2	1	1	—
Abertillery ...	17	5	12	12	8	4	2	2	—
Bedwas & Machen ...	2	2	—	4	4	—	6	6	—
Bedwellty ...	—	—	—	3	1	2	—	—	—
Blaenavon ...	6	4	2	12	6	6	2	2	—
Caerleon ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chepstow ...	—	—	—	4	4	—	4	4	—
Cwmbran ...	3	3	—	6	6	—	6	6	—
Ebbw Vale ...	12	3	9	31	26	5	11	10	1
Monmouth ...	2	—	2	6	5	1	—	—	—
Mynyddislwyn ...	—	—	—	23	22	1	—	—	—
Nantyglo & Blaina ...	—	—	—	4	4	—	4	4	—
Pontypool ...	8	6	2	74	61	13	2	2	—
Rhymney ...	—	—	—	9	8	1	1	1	—
Risca ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tredegar ...	22	10	12	44	35	9	9	8	1
Usk ...	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—
<b>Rural.</b>									
Abergavenny ...	*14	7	7	—	—	—	5	4	1
Chepstow ...	3	3	—	1	—	1	4	4	—
Magor & St. Mellons ...	21	8	13	28	19	9	2	2	—
Monmouth ...	7	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pontypool ...	—	—	—	31	19	12	1	1	—
Totals ...	120	56	64	309	243	66	62	58	4

\*Taken during excavations for proposed new water supplies.

Bedwas and Machen, Mynyddislwyn (for part of area), Bedwellty and Rhymney Urban District Councils (together with Caerphilly and Gellygaer Urban District Councils in the County of Glamorgan) are constituent authorities of the Rhymney Valley Water Board. Abertillery, Abercarn, Risca and Mynyddislwyn Urban District Councils are constituent authorities of the Western Valleys (Mon.) Water Board. Both of these statutory Water Boards take samples of water, both raw and treated, from their respective supplies. The numbers and results of the examinations of these samples are

not included in the above Table, which is restricted to samples taken by the other urban and rural authorities in the County and check samples taken by the constituent authorities in the areas of the two Water Boards.

Table 2 shows the **number of houses** and percentage of the total number of houses, supplied direct from public water mains (a) direct to the houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes.

TABLE 2.	Urban	Rural	County
1. Total number of houses in the area ...	66,370	12,045	78,415
2. Number of houses supplied from public water mains <i>direct to the house</i> ...	65,364	5,506	70,870
3. Number of houses supplied from public water mains <i>by means of stand-pipes</i> ...	474	252	726
4. Number of houses <i>not supplied from public water mains, i.e.,</i> neither direct to the houses nor by means of stand-pipes...	532	6,287	6,819
5. Proportion of the number of houses in urban areas <i>not supplied from public water mains</i> ...	·8%	—	—
6. Proportion of the number of houses in rural areas <i>not supplied from public water mains</i>	—	52·2%	—
7. Proportion of the <i>total number of houses in the County not supplied from public water mains</i> ...	—	—	8·6%

In connection with Table 2 above and Table 3 following, there are in addition a small number of houses in rural areas which are not served by public water mains but have private piped supplies.

Table 3 shows the **approximate populations**, and percentages of the total populations, supplied from public water mains (a) direct to the houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes.

TABLE 3.	Urban	Rural	County
1. Total approximate population of the area...	269,300	40,490	309,790
2. Approximate population supplied from public water mains <i>direct to the houses</i> ...	265,512	19,955	285,467
3. Approximate population supplied from public water mains <i>by means of stand-pipes</i> ...	1,649	1,100	2,749
4. Approximate population <i>not supplied from public water mains, i.e.,</i> neither direct to their houses nor by means of stand-pipes ...	2,139	19,435	21,574
5. Proportion of the approximate population of <i>urban areas not supplied from public water mains</i> ... ..	·7%	—	—
6. Proportion of the approximate population of <i>rural areas not supplied from public water mains</i> ... ..	—	48·0%	—
7. Proportion of the total approximate population of <i>the County not supplied from public water mains</i> ... ..	—	—	6·9%

From Tables 2 and 3 it will be observed that 6,819 houses throughout the **whole County**, involving approximately 21,574 people (nearly 7% of the total population of the County) are not supplied with water from public mains, but are dependant upon supplies from wells and springs, etc., which frequently fail during drought periods and at all times are usually of doubtful quality.

The number of houses without a public piped supply in the **urban areas** of the County is 532, affecting approximately 2,139 people. These houses are chiefly scattered homesteads in inaccessible positions, but their need of piped water supply is nevertheless very great, especially as many are small farms engaged in dairying. As the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, extend to rural localities in urban areas, it may be that some of these areas may rank for grant under that Act.

The great need of the extension of properly treated piped water supplies in **rural areas** is once again reflected in the above figures, which show that 6,287 houses, affecting an approximate population of 19,435 (approximately half of the rural population) are not yet so supplied. Again the need of

properly treated piped supplies to dairy farms is stressed. The position will, no doubt, be appreciably improved when schemes which are being prepared under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, have been implemented in this County.

The quality of the treated piped water supplies is generally good. When adverse reports upon the examination of samples are received, investigations are carried out until the source of contamination is ascertained and eliminated. The supplies at Ebbw Vale, Nantyglo and Blaina, Rhymney (slightly) and that part of Tredegar served from Ebbw Vale, the Pwlldu area of the Abergavenny Rural District, one small scheme in the Chepstow Rural District, and a small supply at Narth in the Monmouth Rural District, are liable to plumbo solvent action and galvanized iron service pipes only are used in these areas. The piped supplies in the Monmouth Rural District are untreated and the supply to the village of Skenfrith is polluted after heavy rainfall. This supply, however, is now in the hands of consulting engineers with a view to preparing a new comprehensive scheme.

In the Blaenavon Urban District, the quality of the water supplied from the main sources—Nos. 3 and 4 Reservoirs—and the Abertillery and District Water Board's supply was satisfactory. Unsatisfactory samples were taken from the smaller supplies, which are now being chlorinated.

In the Tredegar Urban District, the Georgetown Waterworks (except for the supply to the County Infirmary, where a chlorinating plant has been installed) was shut down for the whole of the year, pending the completion of a scheme for improvement.

In the Magor and St. Mellons Rural District, with the improved piped water supply now provided in the Magor area, the position respecting the sufficiency and quality of the water supply can be regarded as generally satisfactory except in the parishes of Henllys, Bettws and Michaelstone-y-vedw, and for outlying farms and dwelling-houses throughout the District which are situated beyond the area of piped supplies from waterworks. Here the only supplies available are obtained from springs or wells of variable quantity and quality, and in a comparatively few cases from rain-water storage tanks. Schemes prepared to served 50 premises (including farms and a school) in the Henllys parish; 22 premises (including farms and a school) in the Michaelstone-y-y-vedw parish; and 12 farms and cottages in the Bettws parish, have not yet materialised.

The sources of the piped supplies for the County are generally adequate, and usually constant supplies are maintained during drought periods by means of supplemental supplies. It is doubtful whether existing supplies will be sufficient in Abergavenny Borough in view of the proposed increase



in the number of houses, and an additional source of supply is being developed by the local authority. A scheme has been prepared to augment the existing services at Caerleon. At Ebbw Vale there is sufficient water for present needs, but not for future developments. Pressure is sometimes low on the higher levels in the Bedwas and Machen and Nantyglo and Blaina Urban Districts. Insufficiency is reported at Govilon High Level and Llanellen in the Abergavenny Rural District.

Supply to parts of Highmoor Hill in the Chepstow Rural District has been intermittent. The village schemes in the Monmouth Rural District (particularly to Raglan) are insufficient during drought periods. Pumping machinery has been duplicated to provide for peak periods at Skenfrith.

Improvements to well and spring supplies have been continued in many areas during the year.

### **RURAL WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE ACT, 1944.**

This Act places at the disposal of the Minister of Health a sum of £15,000,000 to assist schemes executed after the war for the provision or improvement of water supply and for the provision of sewerage facilities in rural localities in England and Wales. The County Council are also required to contribute towards the cost of such schemes and provision is made in the Act for consultation by local authorities with the County Council before submitting schemes to the Minister. Details of schemes ranking for grant under this Act have been received from rural district councils in the County, and have been considered by a Technical Sub-Committee. Recommendations for approval by the Minister have been forwarded by the County Council, and local enquiries have been held in some instances.

A further important provision of the Act is the amendment of Section 111 of the Public Health Act 1936 by making it obligatory upon local authorities, where it is practicable at reasonable cost, to provide a supply of wholesome water in pipes to all rural localities in their district in which there are houses or schools, and to take the pipes affording the supplies to such points as will enable the houses or schools to be connected at reasonable cost. Any question whether the provision is practicable at reasonable cost or as to the points to which pipes shall be taken to enable houses or schools to be supplied, has to be determined by the Minister at the request of the County Council or of ten or more Local Government electors in the district concerned.

### **SEWERAGE.**

The Rhymney and Western Valleys of the County are served by two main trunk sewers, each of which discharges into the sea.



The Constituent Authorities of the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board are Caerphilly and Gelligaer Urban District Councils in the County of Glamorgan, and Rhymney, Bedwellty and Bedwas and Machen Urban District Councils in the County of Monmouth. The Board deals with the sewage of the Constituent Authorities, a portion of the Parish of Van in the Cardiff Rural District Council of Glamorgan and a portion of the Parish of Lower Machen in the Magor and St. Mellons Rural District of Monmouthshire.

The Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board deals with the sewage of Abercarn, Abertillery, Bedwellty, Ebbw Vale, Mynyddislwyn, Nantyglo and Blaina, Risca and Tredegar Urban Districts, and portions of Magor and St. Mellons Rural District.

The question of the construction of a main trunk sewer to serve the Eastern Valley should now be seriously reconsidered.

#### **CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**

Progress still continues to be made in the conversion of privies, pail closets, etc., into water closets, this being possible where subsidiary sewers have been provided by the various Local Authorities.

#### **PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

The collection of house refuse varies according to the conditions prevailing in the various districts. Usually the refuse is collected two or three times a week. In most instances the work is done by motor lorries fitted with suitable covers.

#### **SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.**

Mr. J. Jenkin Evans, M.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., the County Sanitary Inspector, and his assistant, Mr. H. C. Bird, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., assist the County Medical Officer in his sanitary investigations.

#### **SHOPS, FACTORIES AND WORK-PLACES.**

Improvements are still being effected under the various Acts and Orders, etc., for the improvement of the health and comfort of workers in shops. The Factories Act, 1937, which came into operation on the 1st July, 1938, has secured a general improvement in the conditions of factories and work-places.

#### **SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.**

New swimming baths and pools in the County are on modern lines with up-to-date filtration and cleansing plants. Facilities are available at the

County Public Health Laboratory for the examination of water from swimming baths and pools.

## SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of schools is subject to District Sanitary Inspections, whilst the School Medical Officers and the County Sanitary Inspector also deal with it at their periodical visits to the schools. The special survey by the School Medical Officers of school buildings which commenced in 1925, was continued, and during the year 1946 all school buildings visited by the School Medical Officers were inspected.

The survey of the general sanitary conditions of the Non-Provided schools in the County which was commenced by the County Sanitary Inspectors towards the end of 1945 was completed at the beginning of 1946, and a report upon each school was passed to the Education Committee. Structural defects in the buildings and the state of ventilation and natural and artificial lighting were noted. The water supply to many of the rural schools is from sources which are open to contamination, and it is hoped that schemes under consideration for grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, will materially assist in providing piped supplies of wholesome water to many schools which now depend upon wells and springs. Full advantage of these schemes should be taken by the responsible authorities with a view to providing a piped treated supply of water to every school.

Generally speaking, the closet accommodation provided is obsolete and unsatisfactory, while many urinals are dilapidated. In many instances washing facilities are insufficient,

With the coming into operation of the Education Act, 1944, and Regulations which have been made governing the conditions of schools, it is anticipated that some of the more unsatisfactory buildings will be closed, and this has led to a reluctance on the part of the responsible authorities to embark upon suitable schemes to remedy defects and deficiencies. It is regretted that the fear expressed in the report for last year that a position is likely to arise whereby, owing to shortage of labour and materials and the priority afforded to the building of new houses, programmes of providing new schools may be delayed for a few years, and a generation of children may be condemned during their school life to avail themselves of rapidly deteriorating sanitary arrangements, is already shewing signs of being realised.

No doubt a survey of Council Schools would reveal, in many instances, a similar state of affairs, and it is again emphasised that it is imperative in

the interests of the school population at large that a comprehensive programme should be prepared to provide those schools which are not likely to be closed immediately with a piped treated supply of water, modern hygienic pedestal water closets, partitioned glazed urinals, and sufficient washing facilities.

## **TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING.**

The year has been an intensively active one in all fields of physical development—local authority housing, new industries, village halls and recreation grounds, school sites, police buildings and houses, public health, highways, etc. All plans of the appropriate authorities have been considered in detail by both the East and West Monmouthshire Joint Planning Committees and related to the future possible outline plan for the County.

Both Joint Committees, apart from the administration and control of all building development and use of land in the County of Monmouth, have been quickly pushing ahead with the collection of basic survey and research data, in order that full information can be available as a basis for the outline plan for the County.

Detailed surveys undertaken in West Monmouthshire include subsidence, land and building utilisation, industrial and population statistics, revision of ordnance maps, historic growth of communities, and derelict and blighted Areas.

In Eastern Monmouthshire, Abergavenny Rural District has been surveyed in detail, and an outline plan has been prepared based upon the preservation of agricultural lands for their basic user and the building up of proper villages and community centres and the encouragement of all general building development into the latter areas. Detail surveys of the District from the point of view of land use, housing demand, clearance areas and houses to be subject to demolition, amenity and landscape, education and further survey have all been carried out.

In the field of Regional Planning close collaboration and co-operation has taken place with Messrs. Alwyn Lloyd, M.T.P.I., A.R.I.B.A., and Herbert Jackson, A.R.I.B.A., etc., Consultants appointed by the Minister of Town and Country Planning to prepare an outline plan for the South Wales and Monmouthshire Development Area, and in connection with this work, surveys relating to amenity, analysis and location of open spaces, allotments, etc., and the distribution of population and the location of suitable future housing sites were prepared by the Committees' staff and submitted to the Consultants for their information and guidance.

In June, 1946, a public enquiry was held by the Electricity Commissions and the Minister of Town and Country Planning into the objection of the owners and the local authorities and Joint Planning Committees to the proposal of the South Wales Power Co., Ltd., to locate a super Power Station in the Usk Valley at Llanover. The Joint Planning Committees prepared the necessary case on behalf of the local authorities and severely opposed this industrial intrusion into an area of high agricultural (market gardening and milk production) value and one of the beauty spots of the County. After a prolonged period of deliberation the Minister of Town and Country Planning announced his decision supporting the views of the local authorities concerned and the Joint Planning Committees and requesting the Power Company to look for an alternative site. This decision was of Regional and National Planning importance and has done much to sustain the Joint Planning Committees in their further endeavours to maintain the correct use of land, save first-class agricultural land and locate major industries in the appropriate and proper areas.

All told, the second post-war year has been one of increasing activity and tempo in the Planning Field which was concluded by the introduction in January, 1947, of the Town and Country Planning Bill, 1947. This Bill completely revises the Planning structure and organisation, repeals previous statutes in planning and provides a solution to the thorny problems of "Compensation and Betterment." Under this Bill it is proposed that the Local Planning Authority shall be the County Council. In addition the County Council have to submit an outline Development Plan to the Minister of Town and Country Planning within three years of the "Operative Date," which will probably be March or June, 1948.

## HOUSING.

The following table shews the numbers of temporary pre-fabricated, permanent pre-fabricated and traditional houses owned by local authorities on the 31st December, 1946, and also the numbers of those houses in course of erection, or for which sanction to build had been given by the Minister of Health up to the 31st December, 1946.



District	No. of Houses owned on 31-12-46			No. of Houses in course of erection on 31-12-46			No. of Houses for which sanction has been given but but not com- menced on 31-12-46		
	Temp. Pre-fab.	Perm. Pre-fab.	Traditional Houses	Temp. Pre-fab.	Perm. Pre-fab.	Traditional Houses	Temp. Pre-fab.	Perm. Pre-fab.	Traditional Houses
<b>Urban.</b>									
Abercarn ... ..	50	—	346	—	—	30	—	50	—
Abergavenny ... ..	—	—	184	50	—	74	—	—	6
Abertillery ... ..	50	—	200	—	14	20	50	60	16
Bedwas & Machen ... ..	—	—	358	—	—	—	50	—	88
Bedwellty ... ..	34	—	854	16	62	42	50	—	34
Blaenavon ... ..	—	—	240	50	50	—	—	—	44
Caerleon ... ..	30	—	66	—	—	—	20	—	96
Chepstow ... ..	—	—	74	—	—	42	—	—	—
Cwmbran ... ..	—	—	401	—	—	88	100	—	—
Ebbw Vale ... ..	—	—	736	—	120	56	—	—	—
Monmouth ... ..	29	—	159	21	—	—	—	18	50
Mynyddislwyn ... ..	100	—	346	—	50	—	—	—	—
Nantyglo & Blaina ... ..	—	—	311	50	—	30	—	50	—
Pontypool ... ..	160	—	1482	—	50	40	—	158	36
Rhymney ... ..	—	—	90	50	52	—	—	—	—
Risca ... ..	26	—	780	20	82	4	—	—	28
Tredegar ... ..	80	—	487	—	—	39	—	—	—
Usk ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Rural.</b>									
Abergavenny ... ..	—	—	86	—	—	22	—	—	12
Chepstow ... ..	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—	22
Magor & St. Mellons ... ..	50	—	190	—	8	20	—	—	82
Monmouth ... ..	—	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	8
Pontypool ... ..	—	—	15	—	—	12	—	—	22
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>7550</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>544</b>

The above information has been supplied by the District Sanitary Inspectors.



The following table shews the numbers of houses which have been completed during the year by local authorities and by private enterprise.

District	By Local Authority				By Private Enterprise	Grand Total
	Temp. Pre-fab.	Perm. Pre-fab.	Traditional Houses	Total		
<b>Urban.</b>						
Abercarn ... ..	50	—	—	50	—	50
Abergavenny ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abertillery ... ..	50	—	—	50	—	50
Bedwas & Machen ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bedwellty ... ..	34	—	—	34	—	34
Blaenavon ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caerleon ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chepstow ... ..	—	—	—	—	4	4
Cwmbran ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ebbw Vale ... ..	—	—	12	12	—	12
Monmouth ... ..	21	—	—	21	1	22
Mynyddislwyn ... ..	100	—	—	100	—	100
Nantyglo & Blaina ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pontypool ... ..	114	—	—	114	5	119
Rhymney ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Risca ... ..	26	—	—	26	1	27
Tredegar ... ..	80	—	—	80	—	80
Usk ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Rural.</b>						
Abergavenny ... ..	—	—	8	8	2	10
Chepstow ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
Magor & St. Mellons ... ..	50	—	—	50	8	58
Monmouth ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pontypool ... ..	—	—	—	—	2	2
Totals ... ..	525	—	20	545	26	571

The above information has been supplied by the District Sanitary Inspectors.

The general position is much the same as in recent years. Numerous complaints continue to be received in this Department concerning housing in all its aspects. Some complain of overcrowding, others of various sanitary defects. It is obvious from these complaints that a large number of people in the County are living under appalling conditions, and a great number of new houses will require to be built to alleviate the position. The complaints received were referred to the respective urban and rural authorities, upon

whom falls the prime responsibility for the housing of its inhabitants. District Sanitary Inspectors have been faced with overwhelming difficulties in attempting to solve some of the worst problems arising from dilapidations of buildings and overcrowding. Special attention has been paid where cases of tuberculosis have been involved. In some instances improvement has been effected by the reallocation of houses. Throughout the war years shortage of labour and materials often made the operation of the Public Health and Housing Acts impossible. It is still a cumbersome matter to get houses put in a fit sanitary condition, and the large number of houses which are structurally deteriorating, some even becoming uninhabitable, for want of urgent repair, is a matter for grave concern. In particular it is very difficult to get owners of property to spend money on houses which were scheduled for demolition before the outbreak of war but which, for want of alternative accommodation, have been inhabited ever since. Nothing short of a long-term drive in the building of new houses will relieve the lot of the unfortunate people who are living under these conditions, or provide accommodation for overcrowded households, and returning service men and women and civilians who have married during recent years. It is a great national problem, but it behoves the people of Monmouthshire to leave no stone unturned in their efforts to get provided the necessary houses for their areas.

### **RURAL HOUSING.**

Following the issue of the Third Report of the Rural Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee (Hobhouse Report) and Circular 64/44 of the Welsh Board of Health in connection therewith, the Monmouthshire County Council initiated a conference of rural authorities, as a result of which the Monmouthshire Rural Housing Joint Committee was formed. All the rural authorities in the County, together with the County Council, are now represented on this Committee, and a Technical Sub-Committee was formed to arrange the necessary details and organisation of the Survey of rural houses, which is the first work envisaged in the Hobhouse Report, with a view to placing houses in certain categories and providing a comprehensive picture of the state of housing in the rural areas. The Technical Sub-Committee recommended a Housing Standard which was approved by the Joint Committee, and made other appropriate recommendations to assist in the uniform categorisation of houses to be included in the Survey. The Survey is now under way in some of the rural areas of the County, but progress is still slow on account of the shortage of qualified Sanitary Inspectors.

### **ADULTERATION OF FOODSTUFFS, ETC.**

Samples of foodstuffs, including butter, milk, margarine, etc., are sent to Mr. Geo. Hogan, F.R.I.C., Dock Street, Newport, who is the Public

Analyst appointed for the County. At a meeting of the Works and General Purposes Committee, held on the 13th July, 1920, it was decided that the County Medical Officer should exercise general supervision over the action to be taken in pursuance of the Acts and Regulations under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and that he, the County Analyst, and, if necessary, the Clerk should confer as to the details necessary to secure observance of the Acts and Regulations.

### **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

Full details of the work carried out under the above Act will be found in the Reports of the Chief Inspector to the General Purposes Committee of the County Council.

The following is the portion dealing with the examination of the samples:—

During the year 1,163 samples of all classes of foods were submitted to the Public Analyst.

These consisted of 939 samples of milk in course of sale to the public, and 54 "Appeal to Cow" samples.

In addition, 170 samples of other foods were procured; these included several pharmaceutical products.

The Analyst certified 61 of the milk samples and one other food sample to be "Not up to the Standard."

The percentage of adulteration was therefore 5.33%.

The average composition of the milk samples was:—

Fat, 3.60%; Solids not Fat, 8.77%. Total 12.37%

The 170 samples of the other foods consisted of the staple products, rationed goods, tinned foods and various drugs and medicines.

With the exception of one sample of Egg Substitute Powder, which was found to be deficient in available carbon di-oxide, all the other samples were certified to be genuine and of good quality, being particularly free from colouring matter.

The medicines and drugs were in accordance with the agreed pharmaceutical standards.

Legal proceedings were instituted against 8 Producers and 11 Vendors and Fines and Costs to the amount of £107/9/0 were inflicted by the Magistrates.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

Full details of Isolation Hospitals in the County will be found in the Annual Report for 1938.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1946.

The seven principal Zymotic Diseases are Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever (including Typhus, Enteric and Continued Fevers) and Diarrhoea (under 2 years).

These diseases caused 46 deaths and gave a Zymotic death rate of ·148 for the County, as compared with a rate of ·212 for 1945; ·138 for 1944; ·152 for 1943, and ·167 for 1942.

The following table shows the death and attack (Notification) rate for Zymotic Diseases in the County of Monmouth during the year 1946:—

Disease.	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate per 1000 of population.	No. of notifications.	Attack Rate per 1000 of population.
Small Pox ... ..	*1	·003	Nil	—
Measles (including German Measles) ... ..	—	—	382	1·233
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	523	1·688
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	5	·016	120	·387
Whooping Cough ...	6	·020	367	1·184
Fever (including Typhus, Enteric and Continued Fevers) ... ..	3	·009	11	·036
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	31	·100	Not notifiable	—
Totals ... ..	46	·148	1403	4·528

\*Death assigned to this area by Registrar-General, although actually occurred outside the area.



DISTRICTS	Estimated Population, 1945	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Acute Polio- myelitis.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Malaria.	Dysentery.	Measles.	Acute Polio- Encephalitis.	Para-typhoid
<b>URBAN.</b>																	
Abercarn	18,990	22	5	..	22	2	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	11	..	..
Abergavenny	8,439	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Abertillery	28,280	83	11	..	9	1	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	243	1	1
Bedwas and Machen	8,441	1	4	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	3	17	..	..	4	..	..
Bedwellty	28,230	24	5	..	13	4	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	3	..	..
Blaenavon	9,797	4	1	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Caerleon	3,652	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chepstow	4,993	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	21	..	..	..	..	..
Cwmbran	11,890	15	1	..	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	..	..	2	..	..
Ebbw Vale	29,260	136	19	..	67	14	..	1	2	2	1	97	..	..	75	..	2
Monmouth	5,082	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Mynyddislwyn	13,500	4	4	..	1	..	..	5	..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..
Nantyglo and Blaina	11,540	36	3	..	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	5	..	..	3	..	..
Pontypool	42,080	29	3	1	3	3	..	..	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rhymney	8,773	37	18	..	11	..	..	1	1	..	..	8	..	..	1	1	..
Risca	14,790	27	18	..	56	12	..	5	1	..	..	46	..	..	10	..	..
Tredegarr	19,970	37	16	3	30	7	..	1	6	..	1	16	..	..	5	..	2
Usk	1,593	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals, Urban	269,300	473	108	4	231	49	1	15	17	7	7	353	2	..	360	2	5
<b>RURAL.</b>																	
Abergavenny	7,592	6	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Chepstow	9,365	7	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	12	..	..	..	..	..
Magor & St. Mellons	11,692	31	2	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..
Monmouth	6,272	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	11	..	..
Pontypool	5,569	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	17	3	..	2	..	..	3	..	..
Totals, Rural	40,490	50	12	2	5	..	1	..	17	3	2	14	..	..	22	..	..
Grand Totals	309,790	523	120	6	236	49	2	15	34	10	9	367	2	..	382	2	5

The number of infectious diseases removed to Hospitals during the year was as follows:—

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL													
DISTRICT	Small Pox	Diphtheria &	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Malaria	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Acute Polyomyelitis	Enteric Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Puerperal Pyrexia
<b>Urban—</b>													
Abercarn ...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Abergavenny ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abertillery ...	...	8	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Bedwas and Machen	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bedwellty ...	...	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blaenavon ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caerleon ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chepstow ...	...	2	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cwmbran ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ebbw Vale ...	...	17	...	4	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
Monmouth ...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mynyddislwyn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nantyglo and Blaina	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pontypool ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...
Rhymney ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Risca ...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Tredeggar ...	...	2	...	3	...	1	1	...	3	...	...	4	...
Usk ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Rural—</b>													
Abergavenny ...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chepstow ...	...	9	...	10	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Magor & St. Mellons	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Monmouth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pontypool ...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	...	72	1	75	1	1	10	3	5	4	...	6	...

The above has been compiled from the returns submitted by the District Medical Officers of Health.

## SMALL-POX.

No case of Small-pox was reported during the year 1946.

## VACCINATION.

According to the instructions of the Registrar-General, the following is a summary of the returns made by Mr. E. J. Winstone (who is the Vaccination Officer for the whole Administrative County) relating to children whose births were registered during the year 1945:—

	Per Cent.
Successfully ... ..	28·8
Insusceptible to Vaccination ... ..	·09
Had Smallpox ... ..	Nil
Declaration of Conscientious Objection received ...	52·7
Died Unvaccinated ... ..	3·9
Postponement by Medical Certificate ... ..	2·0
Removal to Districts, the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly apprised ... ..	1·3
Removal to places unknown ... ..	3·1
Number of cases not included under any of the above- named headings ... ..	7·8

## SCARLET FEVER.

There has been a decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever during the year, 523 cases being notified, as compared with 789 in 1945; 654 in 1944; 614 in 1943, and 512 in 1942. In 1946 there were no deaths; in 1945 there was 1 death; in 1944 there were no deaths; in 1943 there were no deaths, and in 1942 there was 1 death.

## DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year 1946 was 120, which is only 2 more than during the previous year, when the number was 118. During 1944, 167 cases were notified; in 1943, 272 cases were notified, and in 1942, 305 cases were notified. The deaths recorded in 1946 were 5; in 1945, 2; in 1944, 7; in 1943, 8; in 1942, 15, and in 1941, 44.

In the year 1946, 65·83% of the age group 0—5 years and 71·41% of the 5—15 years were immunised. The latter figure approximates to the target of 75%, but neither is satisfactory. In the age group under 5 years the percentage is still kept down by the rural areas. Some of the urban areas (Blaenavon) claim 98%.

Every effort has been made to encourage the country people to co-operate. The Heath Visitors work with unfailing enthusiasm to educate the parents,

but the response is still disappointing. It is encouraging to find that the mothers who regularly attend the Infant Welfare Centres now regard immunisation as a routine, and as the child becomes 8 or 9 months old they attend for the two injections without any persuasion. It has also been noticed lately that parents are interested in how long the immunity lasts, and ask at what age and how often the child must be given "boosting" doses to ensure complete immunity throughout childhood.

### **PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.**

During the year 1945, notifications of 34 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were received under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia) Regulations from the District Medical Officers of Health. Particulars of Maternal Mortality will be found in the portion of this Report dealing with "Vital Statistics."

### **INFANTILE DIARRHOEA.**

A number of cases of this disease were discovered during the visits to homes during the year. Thirty-one deaths were registered in children under two years of age, giving a death rate of 100 per 1,000 population. All cases of which the Health Visitor has knowledge are visited, but it is obvious that very many cases do not come to her notice. This disease is not notifiable.

### **ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.**

Two cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified during the year; in 1945 there was 1 case; in 1944 there were no cases; in 1943 there was 1 case, and in 1942 there were 3 cases. No deaths were recorded in 1946, compared with 5 in 1945; 4 in 1944; none in 1943, and 9 in 1942. It will be noted that the number of cases notified has not always shown a true picture of the incidence of the disease.

### **OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**

Fifteen cases were notified under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, as compared with 11 cases in 1945; 21 in 1944; 25 in 1943, and 45 in 1942. Further details are given in the Maternity and Child Welfare Report.

### **CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER, ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS AND ACUTE POLIOENCEPHALITIS.**

Nine cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever were notified to the County Medical Officer during the year 1946, as compared with 10 during the year 1945; 11 cases in 1944; 21 cases in 1943, and 46 cases in 1942. The number of deaths recorded during the year was 6. The cases were notified from the



following districts:—Bedwellty (3), Ebbw Vale, Pontypool (2), Tredegar Urban Districts and Chepstow and Monmouth Rural Districts.

There were 10 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis and 2 cases of Polioencephalitis notified during the year. One death was recorded from these diseases. In his return the Registrar-General does not differentiate between deaths from these two causes.

### **CHICKEN POX.**

The disease is not compulsorily notifiable.

### **MEASLES.**

Measles has been a notifiable disease since October, 1939. 332 cases were notified during the year 1946. In 1945, 4,764 cases were notified; in 1944 there were 914 cases; in 1943 there were 4,503 cases, and in 1942 there were 965 cases. No deaths were recorded during the year as compared with 17 in 1945; 1 in 1944; 6 in 1943, and 3 in 1942.

### **WHOOPING COUGH.**

This disease has been notifiable since October, 1939. 367 cases were reported in 1946; 533 in 1945; 377 in 1944; 646 in 1943, and 273 in 1942. The number of deaths was 6 compared with 12 in 1945; 9 in 1944; 6 in 1943, 5 in 1942.

### **INFLUENZA.**

Information regarding the number of cases is difficult to obtain. The number of deaths in 1946 was 41 compared with 31 in 1945; 41 in 1944; 84 in 1943, and 48 in 1942.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH (PNEUMONIA, MALARIA, DYSENTERY, ETC.) REGULATIONS.**

236 cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year 1946, as compared with 319 cases in 1945; 297 in 1944; 372 in 1943, and 387 cases in 1942. There were 170 deaths in 1946; 162 deaths in 1945; 153 deaths in 1944; 170 deaths in 1943, and 100 deaths in 1942. The notification of this disease is by no means satisfactory, and the figures relating to the number of notifications are no indication of the number of persons who actually suffer from the disease. The attention of the Medical Practitioners of the County is continually being brought to their duties under these Regulations.

Two cases of Malaria were notified during the year, and there were no cases of Dysentery reported.

## **SCABIES.**

Owing to War conditions and the prevalence of Scabies in the Country, the Minister of Health in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 33a of the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, made an order, "The Scabies Order, 1941." This Order came into force on the 28th October, 1941, and provides for notification to Medical Officers of Health by registered Medical Practitioners and others, of verminous persons and premises. It also confers on Medical Officers of Health certain compulsory powers for dealing with Scabies, and all other verminous conditions.

In effect, this Order considerably strengthens the powers given to County Councils and Local Sanitary Authorities under the Public Health Act, 1936, for dealing with filthy or verminous persons and premises, and is proving to be of great value at this time.

## **GENERAL CLEANLINESS.**

The Health Visitors on the Staff perform splendid service in their efforts to promote a good general standard of cleanliness and habits in the homes, and in giving advice upon the combating of head-lice.

Abertillery and Ebbw Vale will shortly be placed on the same footing as the remainder of the County, where School Medical Inspection and Maternity and Child Welfare work of the Health Visitors is co-ordinated.

Homes are visited periodically until children attain the age of 5 years, and subsequently as found necessary at School Inspections, and Health Visitors are thus able to carry on the individual work of advising and assisting parents in respect of their children of all ages.

The Nursery Schools in the County also play an important part in the educative work of teaching cleanly habits to the toddlers.

## **CANCER.**

The number of deaths from Cancer recorded during the year 1946 was 503; in 1945, there were 499 deaths; in 1944, 467 deaths; in 1943, 450 deaths, and in 1942, 448 deaths. As in previous years, practically the whole of the deaths occurred in persons between the ages of 45 and 65 and upwards.

In relation to this return, attention is drawn to the fact that since 1941 the deaths from Cancer in this County have varied from 448 to 503, whereas for Tuberculosis the deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis in this County for the year 1946 were 178.

The question of providing adequate facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer has been exercising the County Councils and County Borough Councils of South Wales and Monmouthshire for the last eight years, and prior to the War a sub-committee formed at a conference of those authorities drew up three schemes, which were discussed later at a conference of the Welsh Board of Health, but further consideration of which was eventually deferred.

Now, after a number of years of intensive effort on the part of this Council, a Committee has been formed—the South Wales and Monmouthshire Joint Cancer Committee, of which Mr. Vernon Lawrence is the Clerk—and an interim scheme to provide facilities and treatment is now in course of preparation.

It is proposed to build a new radiotherapeutic Centre on a site adjoining the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, but pending its construction plans are being prepared for the provision of temporary buildings at Llandough Hospital to accommodate approximately 100 beds.

### **PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**

Arrangements are made under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the examination of persons with a view to the prevention of blindness, and assistance is granted by the appropriate Committee of the County Council. Spectacles are provided upon the recommendation of the Ophthalmic Surgeon and arrangements are made, where necessary, for operative treatment in Hospital of persons ordinarily resident within the County and suffering from any disease of, or injury to the eyes.

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations (1930) and in the year 1946, 362 primary cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified, and 152 deaths were registered. Of other forms of Tuberculosis, 84 cases were notified and 26 deaths registered. The total number of primary notifications of all forms of Tuberculosis was therefore 446, and the total number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis was 178.

The total number of notifications received during the year was 388 Pulmonary and 92 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis of which 26 and 8 respectively were duplicates. Cases are sometimes notified to the District Medical Officers of Health by the patients' Medical Attendants and also by the Tuberculosis Physicians during the same week.

Registered deaths from Tuberculosis were again compared with the cases notified by the District Medical Officers of Health, and when it was found that a death registered by the District Registrar had not previously been notified by the District Medical Officer of Health as a primary notification, it was included in the return of new cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer otherwise than by formal notification under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1930. Examination of these returns showed that there are still some District Medical Officers of Health who are not furnishing the Department with particulars of cases of Tuberculosis in spite of the repeated efforts made by the Staff of the County Public Health Department.

It will be observed from the table included below that the notification rates for Pulmonary Tuberculosis show a slight increase on 1945 but that there is a further decrease in the notification rates for Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The high notification rates can be attributed to the efforts of the Public Health Department in obtaining as far as possible correct records of Tuberculosis cases occurring in the districts from the District Medical Officers of Health.

Regarding the death rates from Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, there has been a decrease in both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases compared with the previous year.

The following table giving the notification rates and death rates per 1,000 of the estimated population is submitted for the purpose of comparison:—

Year.	Notification rate per 1,000 of population.		Death rate per 1,000 of population.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1938 ... ..	1·01	·44	·60	·14
1939 ... ..	1·25	·48	·64	·10
1940 ... ..	1·60	·49	·57	·13
1941 ... ..	1·12	·40	·51	·15
1942 ... ..	1·12	·42	·62	·13
1943 ... ..	1·32	·36	·60	·11
1944 ... ..	1·33	·42	·52	·10
1945 ... ..	1·10	·32	·57	·11
1946 ... ..	1·16	·27	·49	·08

Summary of notifications by District Medical Officers of Health to the County Medical Officer, under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, during the period 1st January, 1946, to the 31st December, 1946, with the number of Deaths notified by the Registrar-General is shown overleaf.



Age Periods.	Primary Notifications on Form A					Age Periods.	DEATHS.				
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total
0	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	—	1	—	1
1	3	—	5	1	9						
5	4	7	9	6	26	1	—	1	2	1	4
10	6	1	8	6	21						
15	23	39	9	5	76	5	—	2	4	1	7
20	31	45	9	6	91						
25	55	51	5	7	118	15	48	46	8	7	109
35	24	14	3	2	43						
45	24	8	2	1	35	45	35	12	1	—	48
55	21	2	—	—	23						
65 and Upwards	2	2	—	—	4	65	6	2	1	—	9
	193	169	50	34	446		89	63	17	9	178

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the period 1st January, 1946, to the 31st December, 1946, otherwise than by formal notification under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930.

Age Periods.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	Total Cases
Pulmonary Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	2	3	13
Pulmonary Females	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	1	4	—	12
Non-Pulmonary Males	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4
Non-Pulmonary Females	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2

Source of above Information.		No. of Cases	
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns	{ from local Registrars ... ..	25	6
	{ transferable deaths from Registrar-General	—	—
Posthumous notifications	... ..	—	—
"Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	... ..	—	—
Other Sources if any	... ..	—	—

From the above it will be seen that 31 non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis were discovered through examination of the Death Returns received from the District Registrars.

### **TUBERCULOSIS ALLOWANCES.**

A Scheme for the domiciliary supervision of patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis who could be made fit for work came into operation on June 1st, 1943. Under this arrangement such patients receive a Standard Personal Allowance and children's allowance, together with a rent allowance. Additional allowances are made for Hire Purchase and Insurance Policies entered into before the patient became ill; there are other supplementary allowances, such as Winter Fuel, and for the education of children. Where a patient is in hospital, Travelling Allowance can be granted for two relatives to visit him; and he can receive 5s. per week pocket money if he is a single man or woman. Where the Housewife is suffering from Tuberculosis, an allowance can be made to enable domestic help to be employed during a period of incapacity.

Subsequently all patients suffering from Tuberculosis either slight or chronic, pulmonary or non-pulmonary, were brought under the direction of the Tuberculosis Care Committee by arrangement with the Social Welfare Committee. Enquiries at the homes are made by the Tuberculosis Visitor, and all payments made through the County Treasurer. Arrangements have also been made for equalising the allowance payable to curable and chronic cases, and no distinction is evident between those who can be cured and those whose condition is chronic. Furthermore, Section 173 of the Public Health Act 1936 has been put into operation with the result that all patients suffering from Tuberculosis can now receive wearing apparel, bed and bedding, extra nourishment and similar facilities to meet the ordinary payments of life while they are under treatment.

The number of patients who received allowances under the Scheme during the year 1st January, 1946, to 31st December, 1946, was 418.

Treatment of Tuberculosis is undertaken by the Welsh National Memorial Association. The detailed reports of the Tuberculosis Physicians are not included in this report, but full information of the work carried out by these officers will be found in the Quarterly Reports of the County Tuberculosis Committee, and in more detail in the Annual Report of the Welsh National Memorial Association. The following are details of Time Tables of clinics held:—

## NEWPORT AND EAST MONMOUTHSHIRE AREA.

DR. A. CARVETH JOHNSON.

## TIME TABLE.

Newport:			
4, Palmyra Place	...	...	Mondays, 10.0 a.m., Men. 2.0 p.m., Women. Tuesdays by appointment only. Wednesdays, 10.0 a.m. Men. 2.0 p.m., Children. Thursdays by appointment only. 2nd Friday in each month, Orthopaedic Clinic. By appointment only. Other Fridays by appointment only. Saturdays, 10.0 a.m.
Abergavenny:			
Maindiff Court Hospital	...		2nd and 4th Thursdays, 11.30 a.m.
Monmouth:			
Out-Patients' Department, Cottage Hospital	...	...	1st Friday, 12 noon. 3rd Friday, domiciliary visits only.
Pontypool:			
Park Buildings	...	...	Tuesdays, 10.30 a.m.

## WEST MONMOUTHSHIRE AREA.

DR. E. A. ASLETT.

## TIME TABLE.

Pontllanfraith:			
Tuberculosis Clinic, Llanarth Road	...	...	Mondays, 10.0 a.m. 3rd Tuesday in each month, 2.30 p.m. (Continued treatment only.) Fridays, 10.0 a.m. Saturdays, by appointment only.
Abertillery:			
88, Queen Street	...	...	Wednesdays, 11.0 a.m.
Ebbw Vale:			
Workmen's Hall	...	...	Tuesdays, 11.0 a.m. Thursdays, 11.0 a.m.
Tredegar:			
Central Surgery	...	...	Thursdays, 1.0 p.m.

## RHYMNEY VALLEY AREA.

DR. F. W. GODBEY.

## TIME TABLE.

Rhydney:			
Central Surgery	...	...	2nd and 4th Mondays in each month, 2.30 p.m.
Caerphilly:			
Heathfield, St. Martin's Rd.	...		Tuesdays, 9.0 a.m. (Children only). Otherwise, By appointment only.

**Cases of Tuberculosis notified under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, during the year ended 31st December, 1946, with reports upon Examinations of Sputa, etc., at the County Laboratory, Newport.**

DISTRICTS AND SUB-DISTRICTS.		PULMONARY.				OTHER T.B. DISEASES.				Total.
		Cases notified.	Result of Lab. examination.		Specimen not submitted.	Cases notified.	Result of Lab. examination.		Specimen not submitted.	
			Pos.	Neg.			Pos.	Neg.		
<b>URBAN.</b>										
<b>Abercarn</b>										
Cwmcarn	...	5	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	5
Pentwynmawr	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Crumlin	...	5	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	5
Abercarn	...	10	2	3	5	1	—	—	1	11
Newbridge	...	9	—	—	9	2	—	—	2	11
Hafodyrynys	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Abergavenny</b>										
Abergavenny	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Abertillery</b>										
Aberbeeg	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Blaina	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Abertillery	...	22	2	—	20	5	—	1	4	27
Llanhilleth	...	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Crumlin	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Bedwas &amp; Machen</b>										
Trethomas	...	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Bedwas	...	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	3
Maesycwmmwr	...	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	4
<b>Bedwellty</b>										
Markham	...	2	—	1	1	2	—	—	2	4
Argoed	...	2	—	1	1	3	—	—	3	5
Cefn Forest	...	2	—	—	2	4	—	—	4	6
Blackwood	...	4	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	4
New Tredegar	...	11	—	—	11	1	—	—	1	12
Aberbargoed	...	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	12
Fleur-de-Lis	...	5	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	6
Hollybush	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Pengam	...	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	2	3
<b>Blaenavon</b>										
Blaenavon	...	14	1	1	12	9	—	—	9	23
<b>Caerleon.</b>										
Caerleon	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Chepstow</b>										
Chepstow	...	3	—	—	3	3	—	—	3	6
<b>Cwmbran</b>										
Cwmbran	...	5	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	5
Pontnewydd	...	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	3
Upper Cwmbran	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1



DISTRICTS AND SUB-DISTRICTS.			PULMONARY.			OTHER T.B. DISEASES.				Total.	
			Cases Notified	Result of Lab. examination		Specimen not submitted	Cases Notified	Result of Lab. examination			Specimen not submitted
				Pos.	Neg.			Pos.	Neg.		
<b>Ebbw Vale</b>											
Waunllwyd	...	...	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	4
Beaufort	...	...	9	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	9
Cwm	...	...	7	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	7
Ebbw Vale	...	...	24	2	1	21	5	—	—	5	29
Victoria	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Rassau	...	...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
<b>Monmouth</b>											
Monmouth	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Mynyddislwyn.</b>											
Wyllie	...	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pontllanfraith	...	...	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	4
Oakdale	...	...	3	—	—	3	2	—	—	2	5
Ynysddu	...	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Cwmfelinfach	...	...	7	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	7
Woodfieldside	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Mynyddislwyn	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Wattsville	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Nantyglo &amp; Blaina</b>											
Blaina	...	...	10	—	—	10	1	—	—	1	11
Nantyglo	...	...	6	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
<b>Pontypool</b>											
Garndiffaith	...	...	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	4
New Inn	...	...	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Griffithstown	...	...	4	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	5
Penyrheol	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Sebastopol	...	...	3	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	4
Pontypool	...	...	15	—	1	14	9	—	1	8	24
Pantygasseg	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pontnewynydd	...	...	5	—	—	5	5	1	—	4	10
Abersychan	...	...	5	—	—	5	1	—	—	1	6
Cwmavon	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Talywain	...	...	2	—	1	1	2	—	—	2	4
<b>Rhymney</b>											
Abertysswg	...	...	2	—	—	2	3	—	—	3	5
Rhymney	...	...	14	—	—	14	3	—	—	3	17
<b>Risca</b>											
Pontymister	...	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Crosskeys	...	...	7	2	1	4	3	—	1	2	10
Risca	...	...	7	1	1	5	4	—	—	4	11
Wattsville	...	...	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2
<b>Tredegar.</b>											
Tredegar	...	...	46	5	5	36	12	—	—	12	58
<b>Usk.</b>											
Usk	...	...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2

DISTRICTS AND SUB-DISTRICTS.	PULMONARY.				OTHER T.B. DISEASES.				Total.
	Cases Notified	Result of Lab examination		Specimen not submitted	Cases Notified	Result of Lab. examination		Specimen not submitted	
		Pos.	Neg.			Pos.	Neg.		
<b>RURAL.</b>									
<b>Abergavenny</b>									
Pwlldu ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Llanddewi Rhydderch..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Llanfair Kilgeddin ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Bryngwyn ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Llanfoist ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Govilon ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Chepstow</b>									
Chepstow ... ..	5	1	—	4	1	—	—	1	6
Caldicot ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Llangwm ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Shirenewton ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Caerwent ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Portskewett ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Rogiet ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
<b>Magor and St. Mellons.</b>									
Magor ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
St. Brides ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Bishpool ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
St. Mellons ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Rogerstone ... ..	12	—	1	11	3	—	—	3	15
Marshfield ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Monmouth</b>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Pontypool.</b>									
Monkswood ... ..	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Croesyceilog ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Mamhilad ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Usk ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Llangibby ... ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>Totals</b> .. ..	376	23	30	323	104	1	3	100	480

**VENEREAL DISEASES.**

**Regulation 33B.** The following are the details of action taken in respect of contacts notified in accordance with the provisions of Defence Regulation 33 B from 1st January, 1946, to 31st December, 1946:—

	Males	Females
(1) (a) Total number in respect of whom Form 1 was received ... ..	2	10
(b) Transferred from other authorities ...	—	3
(2) Number of cases in (1) in which attempts were made outside the scope of the Regulation to persuade the contact to be examined before the latter had been named on a second Form 1—		
Contacts found ... ..	1	6
Contacts examined or already under treatment ... ..	1	6
Number not found ... ..	1	—
Transferred to other authorities ... ..	—	3
(3) (a) Number of those in (1) in respect of whom two or more Forms 1 were received ...	—	1
(b) Number included in (3) (a) in respect of whom the first Form 1 was previously reported under (1) ... ..	—	1
(c) Number included in (3) (a) transferred from other areas ... ..	—	—
(4) Number of those in (3) (a) who were:—		
(a) found ... ..	—	1
(b) examined after persuasion or already under treatment ... ..	—	1
(c) served with Form 2 ... ..	—	—
(d) examined after service of Form 2 ...	—	—
(e) prosecuted ... ..	—	—

The Treatment Centre for the Administrative County is at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport. The days and hours of the sessions are:—

**MALES**—Mondays at 10 a.m.

Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Thursdays at 4.30 p.m.

Fridays at 6 p.m.

**FEMALES**—Mondays at 2 p.m.

Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (Ante-Natal Patients only.)

Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 2.0 p.m.

Facilities for the irrigation of cases of gonorrhoea are also available.

The following is a summary of the work carried out at the Treatment Centre for the Administrative County by Dr. Bernard A. Thomas:—

“ In February, 1946, the V.D. Department returned to the original annexe building from Ward 9 of the main hospital. The clinic had been completely redecorated and reorganised. In addition, during the years, new apparatus and instruments became available, and these included a refrigerator, a loud speaker system, scales, electric sterilizers, instruments, cupboards and examination cubicles. It is considered that the clinic now maintains a high standard of equipment and in this respect compares favourably with any provincial V.D. clinic.

### **Staff.**

The full complement of staff was available during the year, including Medical Officers, a health visitor, nurses and male orderlies. In the death of Dr. Mary Gordon, the department suffered a grievous loss.

### **New Cases.**

Some 499 new cases of proven Venereal disease in County patients were seen and 410 persons attended who were considered as not suffering from V.D. These are extremely high figures and the highest recorded in the history of the clinic. They probably represent a peak figure, however, and a rapid drop can be expected.

Gonorrhoea represented a big proportion of the total of new cases in the proportion of 2:1. The unusual high figure of the non-Venereal patients reflects the vigilance of ante-natal clinics in referring patients for routine check ups and also the increased knowledge of the general public, probably as a result of the propaganda campaign.

### **Attendance.**

As would be expected the total attendances of 9,304 is also a record high figure. On the whole, the majority of patients attended assiduously, and, as regards the females, the health visitor was successful in rounding up many of the defaulters.

### **Treatment.**

Penicillin became freely available in 1946, and it was used in all cases of gonorrhoea and syphilis. The results of treatment following its use were extremely gratifying, and its long term value is bound to be observed in the



reduction of V.D., which will probably be shown subsequently by the annual reports.

### **Regulation 33B.**

Very few notifications under this regulation were received during the year. Action was taken on receipt of only one notification, insofar as the health visitor tactfully approached the contact named. No double complaints were received against any person and consequently no compulsory measures had to be taken."

The work accomplished during the year by the Lady Enquiry Officer, Nurse E. M. Walters, was as follows:—

NUMBER OF VISITS PAID IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.		
	1946	1945
To new cases which came to her knowledge and which had not undergone treatment ... ..	264	309
To old cases in which visits to the Treatment Centre had been discontinued before completion of treatment, also to old cases still under treatment ...	1171	1334
To members of voluntary Agencies, Doctors, Midwives, etc. ... ..	175	175

44  
1.—COUNTY LABRATORY, COUNTY HALL.  
RETURN OF SPECIMENS EXAMINED.

		1946												Previous Year 1945	
		For detection of Spirochaetes.		For detection of Gonococci.		Complement Fixation Test (Gonorrhoea)		For Wassermann reaction (Syphilis).		Kahn Test		Other Examinations.		TOTAL	
		Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males		
<b>From County of Monmouth—</b>															
Treatment Centre		65	15	695	2841	134	245	906	924	888	876	5	370	7964	6384
Practitioners ...		1	—	54	269	39	37	623	365	559	332	28	23	2330	2457
<b>From County Borough of Newport—</b>															
Treatment Centre		60	3	342	635	60	59	483	371	473	361	3	74	2924	2674
Practitioners ...		1	—	17	83	14	14	184	113	173	106	4	7	716	596
<b>From other Districts—</b>															
<b>Glamorgan:</b>															
Treatment Centre		2	—	7	—	1	—	11	—	11	—	—	—	32	12
Practitioners ...		—	—	1	—	—	—	5	3	5	3	—	—	17	4
<b>Brecon:</b>															
Treatment Centre		1	—	16	—	2	—	16	—	16	—	—	—	51	45
Practitioners ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	2	—	—	11	31
<b>Cardiff:</b>															
Treatment Centre		1	—	16	—	4	—	16	—	16	—	—	—	53	31
Practitioners ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
<b>Gloucester:</b>															
Practitioners ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
<b>Bristol:</b>															
Treatment Centre		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
<b>London:</b>															
Practitioners ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Service Cases ...		2	—	18	—	3	—	14	—	14	—	—	—	51	135
<b>Totals</b> ...		133	18	1166	3828	257	355	2264	1778	2160	1680	40	474	14153	12372

Number of substitutes for Salvarsan supplied to Medical Practitioners:—

			1946.	1945.
Novarsenobillon	·6 grm. =	...	—	2
„	·45 „ =	...	—	2
„	·3 „ =	...	1	4
Stabilarsen	·6 grm. =	...	72	29
(Boots)	·45 „ =	...	12	1
Sulphostab	·6 grm. =	...	81	—
(Boots)				
<b>Totals</b>			166	38

The number of practitioners upon the register for the supply of salvarsan substitutes is 19.

## 2.—TREATMENT CENTRE.

(ROYAL GWENT HOSPITAL, NEWPORT.)

Returns of the Medical Officer of Centre to the Medical Officer of Health relating to persons residing in the Administrative County of Monmouth.

	1944			1945.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1.—Number of persons dealt with at or in connection with the Out-patient Clinic for the first time and found to be:—						
Suffering from Syphilis ...	101	52	153	41	50	91
„ „ Soft Chancre ...	13	1	14	3	1	4
„ „ Gonorrhœa ...	244	88	332	136	110	246
Not suffering from venereal disease ...	152	258	410	109	227	336
Totals ...	510	399	909	289	388	677
2.—Number of persons discharged from the Out-patient Clinic after completion of treatment for:—						
Syphilis ...	7	13	20	4	8	12
Soft Chancre ...	8	1	9	1	1	2
Gonorrhœa ...	116	79	195	61	39	100
Not suffering from venereal disease ...	185	312	497	108	211	319
Totals ...	316	405	721	174	259	433
3.—Number of persons who ceased to attend the Out-patient Clinic without completing treatment, and who were suffering from:—						
Syphilis ...	38	60	98	34	54	88
Soft Chancre ...	5	1	6	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa ...	110	47	157	54	43	97
Totals ...	153	108	261	88	97	185
4.—Total attendances of all persons at the Out-patient Clinic who were:—						
Suffering from Syphilis ...	2276	2255	4531	1423	1931	3354
„ „ Soft Chancre ...	58	3	61	18	1	19
„ „ Gonorrhœa ...	1960	1251	3211	1600	1006	2606
Not suffering from venereal disease ...	516	985	1501	275	934	1209
Totals ...	4810	4494	9304	3316	3872	7188

	1946.			1945.		
	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total
<b>5.—Aggregate number of " In-patient days " of treatment given to persons suffering from:—</b>						
Syphilis ... ..	48	125	173	45	182	227
Soft Chancre ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea ... ..	53	182	235	195	128	323
Not suffering from Venereal disease ... ..	—	13	13	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	101	320	421	240	310	550
<b>6.—Number of persons treated with Salvarsan substitutes ... ..</b>						
	179	190	369	106	226	332
<b>7.—Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given to:—</b>						
Name of Drugs—Novarsenobillon						
Stabilarsan						
Kharsulphan						
Sulphostab						
Arseno Argenticum						
dose .05 ... ..	—	14	14	—	8	8
dose .1 ... ..	—	26	26	—	34	34
dose .15 ... ..	—	10	10	—	8	8
dose .2 ... ..	—	46	46	—	50	50
dose .25 ... ..	—	1	1	—	17	17
dose .3 ... ..	48	130	178	18	174	192
dose .45 ... ..	337	637	974	186	650	836
dose .6 ... ..	421	144	565	216	108	324
dose .75 ... ..	134	—	134	59	—	59
Name of Drug—Bismuth—dose .2 gm. ... ..	—	—	—	110	261	371
Quinostab (sol.) dose .3 gm. ... ..	277	11	278	220	22	242
Bis. Oxycloide (sol.) dose .2 gm. ... ..	1091	1081	2172	257	556	813
Totals ... ..	2308	2100	4408	1066	1888	2954
<b>8.—Examination of Pathological material:—</b>						
Specimens from persons attending at the Treatment Centre which were sent for examination to an independent Laboratory—						
For Kahn ... ..	888	876	1764	472	687	1159
For detection of spirochaetes ... ..	65	15	80	54	15	69
For " " gonococci ... ..	695	2841	3536	868	2504	3372
For Wassermann reaction ... ..	906	924	1830	495	734	1229
Complement Fixation Test ... ..	134	245	379	89	281	370
Cerebro Spinal Fluid ... ..	5	18	23	11	14	25
Others ... ..	—	352	352	4	156	160
Totals ... ..	2693	5271	7964	1993	4391	6384



## **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**

This work has been dealt with in a special report.

### **BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920 AND 1938.**

The numbers of Blind Persons upon the County Register at the 31st March, 1947, were 312 Males and 337 Females, making a total of 649.

The Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon to this Authority, Mr. W. J. Hoare, F.R.C.S., examined at the Clinic, Stanley Road, Newport, 244 cases which were referred to this Department for examination under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920 and 1938. The results of his examinations were 94 certified blind; 69 not blind; and in 81 cases glasses were prescribed in order to prevent blindness. In addition, the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon performed operations for cataract at the County Hospital, Panteg.

Dr. Evelyn D. Owen, Assistant Medical Officer, made 35 domiciliary examinations as the cases were unable to travel to Newport; 27 of them were found to be blind, and 8 not blind.

Grants are made to the unemployable blind after consideration of the cases by the Blind Persons Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee, and during the financial year 1946-47, weekly grants were made to 353 persons, the total amount of the grants being £17,108.

The Association for the Blind of the County Borough of Newport and the Administrative County of Monmouth continues to provide social amenities for the blind persons.

**GWYN ROCYN JONES,**

*County Medical Officer.*





